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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1031
INFO RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

UNCLAS MADRID 002604

STPDTS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/WE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EFIN ECON OTRA SP

SUBJECT: SPAIN COUNTRY CLEARANCE FOR DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

DELEGATION

REF: SECSTATE EMAIL DTD 10/10/06

- 11. Embassy grants country clearance and warmly welcomes Department of Treasury Delegation; Robert Michael Kimmitt, Deputy Secretary, Colleen Eddy, Policy Advisor, Vickie Alvo, Economist for Iraq, Alexander Monsarrat, Financial Economist, and James Freis, Deputy Assistant General Counsel to travel to Madrid, Spain from October 18 to October 19, 2006. The purpose of this visit is to meet with management of U.S. banks operating in Spain.
- 12. Post will coordinate requested meetings and meet and assist upon arrival. Control Officer is Carl Schonander, Economic Officer, he can be reached at Embassy number 91-587-2295, cell phone number 699-466-473 or email address schonanderce@state.gov.
- $\P 3$ . Hotel reservations have been made at Hotel Esperia Madrid located at Paseo de la Castellano, 57 and the numbers are phone: 34-91-210-8800, fax: 34-91-210-8899. The perdiem rate for Spain is \$239 and M&IE is \$138.
- 14. Visitors are reminded that bearers of diplomatic and official passports coming to Spain on official business need to obtain a Spanish visa prior to arrival to Spain.

## 15. THREAT ASSESSMENT:

In general, Spain is safe. However, Madrid, Barcelona and other large cities in Spain -- including resort/convention areas such as Benidorm -- attract a large number of criminals and pickpockets and frequent incidents of crime of opportunity against the unwary do occur. Carry only essential items including a photocopy of your passport's photo page. Visitors can protect themselves against crime by being street-smart, alert and aware of their surroundings. In the event you are victimized by crime, or experience any security-related incident, please contact the Embassy's Regional Security Office at 91-587-2550 or after hours at 91-587-2355. Official visitors to the Embassy in Madrid or the Consulate General in Barcelona are encouraged to receive a security briefing from the RSO office at their earliest convenience. Additional information regarding safety and security in Spain is available on the U.S. Department of State's website (www.embusa.es).

Travelers are encouraged to review the most recent Worldwide Caution issued by the Department of State. As the Department of State continues to develop information on any potential security threats to Americans overseas, it shares credible threat information through its Consular Information Program documents, available on the Internet at http://travel/state.gov. In addition to information on the Internet, U.S. travelers can hear recorded information by calling the Department of State in Washington, D.C. at

202-647-5225 from their touch-tone telephone, or receive information by automated telefax by dialing 202-647-3000 from their fax machine. AGUIRRE